



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

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Public Health Service  
Food and Drug Administration

Dallas District  
3310 Live Oak Street  
Dallas, Texas 75204-6191

December 23, 1998

Ref: 99-DAL-WL-06

**WARNING LETTER**

**VIA FACSIMILE**  
**AND FEDERAL EXPRESS**

Mr. Donald J. Carty  
Chief Executive Officer  
American Airlines, Inc.  
4300 Amon Carter Drive  
Ft. Worth, TX 76155

Dear Mr. Carty:

On December 17, 1998, FDA Investigator Martha S. Baldwin conducted an inspection of your aircraft support operation which provides lavatory and potable water service to your flights at the Dallas/Ft. Worth International Airport, Dallas/ Ft. Worth, TX 75261-9047. Our investigator documented deviations from Title 21, Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 1250. Therefore, the referenced airline support operation has been classified as "Provisional."

Our investigation revealed significant insanitary conditions, including:

17/25 potable water hydrants inspected with attached hoses were not protected by backflow protection devices.

10 potable water cabinets did not display signs identifying the hydrants as "Potable Water" or "Drinking Water Only".

Three dumpsite drains remain uncovered and unprotected from the environment which may constitute a source of contamination. The openings may allow vermin and insect entry.

Human stools and used toilet paper bits were observed on the tarmac near the sewage drain at the dumpsite by Gate 44. Dried-up toilet paper bits were observed in the lavatory truck parking lot.

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The sewage tanks of at least three older lavatory trucks exhibited approximate 2.5" holes in the rear of the tanks. These holes were previously the piped venting systems for each of the tanks. The openings now may allow vermin and insects entry.

Lavatory truck 13631 leaked sewage from the bottom drain which collected on the pavement underneath the truck.

Approximately five gallons of blue water was standing near gate C30 and blue water was standing in the lavatory truck parking lot next to a drain exhibiting gouged and damaged cement.

Your immediate attention to correction of these deviations is necessary. Failure to promptly correct these deviations will result in reclassification to **"NOT APPROVED."**

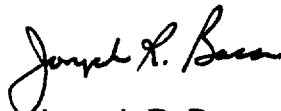
You should notify this office in writing, within fifteen (15) working days of receipt of this letter, regarding specific steps taken or intended to be taken to ensure that the noted observations have been corrected, including measures to prevent the recurrence of similar deviations.

If corrective action cannot be completed within fifteen working days, state the reason for the delay, and the time within which the corrections will be completed.

Please direct your response to:

Mr. James Lahar  
Compliance Officer  
U.S. Food and Drug Administration  
3310 Live Oak Street  
Dallas, TX 75204

Sincerely,



Joseph R. Baca  
District Director

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Enclosure: FDA-483